

# Press Release

## HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### Department of Parks and Recreation



#### PUBLIC SAFETY

"Ensuring a Safe  
Harford"

#### EDUCATION

"Preparing Now,  
Building for the Future"

#### EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

"Governing Smarter"

#### ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

"Growing and Sustaining  
Harford's Prosperity"

#### ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

"Protecting Our  
Environment"

#### QUALITY LIVING

"Safeguarding What is  
Important to Harford  
County Citizens"

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### Groundbreaking for Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding

(Bel Air, MD) - Harford County Department of Parks and Recreation has teamed up with Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding to create a permanent home for the Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding Program. A Groundbreaking Ceremony was held on Thursday at Oakington Farms in Havre de Grace followed by a reception at Swan Harbor Farm in Havre de Grace.

"This is a wonderful partnership to help serve the citizens of Harford County. Teaming up with Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding will make a big difference in the county," said Harford County Executive David R. Craig.

Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding, Incorporated is dedicated to providing a fun and unique healing experience for individuals and groups. CTR's riders and families find hope, growth and compassion through the kindness of benefactors, volunteers and horses. CTR and Parks and Recreation want to provide the best encounter in a healing and loving environment.

"Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding at Oakington will have the capacity to serve more vulnerable people in our community. We will have the facilities to expand and implement new ideas. Thank you Harford County for investing in the health and well-being of people with special needs, disadvantaged youth and the elderly," said Cathy Schmidt, Executive Director for Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding.

The new home will better serve the community as the only year round therapeutic riding organization serving children and adults with special needs, disadvantaged or at-risk youth and the elderly in Harford County. CTR has raised \$75,000, half of the \$150,000, which County Executive Craig challenged them to raise for the project. The county has moved forward with Phase 1 of the project with this contribution in hand. The cost of \$420,000 for this phase includes: the design, demolition of dilapidated structures, construction of driveways and parking areas and the creation of future pasturelands.

Currently, CTR resides in Fallston. The permanent facility will be located at Oakington Farms in Havre de Grace.

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*"Preserving Harford's past. Promoting Harford's future."*